

Honors Program FAQ

Q. What do I need to do to be considered for the Honors Program?

A. You need to be accepted into the University and fill out the online Honors Program application form, which can be accessed through your PioneerWeb logon. To fill out the form you'll need your DU ID# and password. Contact 303-871-4700 with password questions. To ensure consideration, students should submit their application according to the deadlines established each year for admitted Early Admit and Regular Decision students. This information is on our website at <http://www.du.edu/honors/admissions/>.

Q. What do you look for in an applicant?

A. We consider the same standard academic information used by the Office of Admission. Students admitted to the program typically have high school GPAs above 3.8, ACT scores of 30 or higher and SATs of 1300 or higher (verbal and math). In addition, we look at your answers to the questions on our application and the letter of recommendation provided in your application. The letter of recommendation can be from one of the people who wrote for your DU application, but it should comment on why you would be a good choice for the Honors Program (we do not see the letters submitted to the DU admissions office). The letter can be sent with your application or separately, by traditional mail or email (salfrey@du.edu).

Q. What makes the Honors Program special?

A. About half of the required Common Curriculum courses will be taken in Honors sections. These are small enrollment courses taught by our best faculty. Because they have some restrictions on the sections they need to take, Honors Students are given priority registration to maximize the chance they can get the classes they need. To ensure a rigorous training in their major field, Honors students must also achieve distinction in their major. The requirements for this vary from department to department, but all require some kind of thesis or culminating project. The Honors program also provides a number of social and cultural opportunities each quarter. These are optional, but are provided free of charge for students who choose to participate.

Q. What do I need to do if I am accepted into the Honors Program and want to live on the Honors floor?

A. Contact Shawn Alfrey, Associate Director of the Honors Program, and let her know of your desire. Her email address is salfrey@du.edu. Her extension is 303-871-2035.

Q. Can I still be in the Honors Program if I want to... (participate in a Living and Learning Community, double or triple major, be a varsity athlete, be pre-med, study abroad....)?

A. The answer is "Yes" to all of those alternatives and most other things that you can name. Most of the requirements of the Honors Program replace rather than add to other University requirements. For example, as noted above, you will need to take Honors sections of some of your Common Curriculum requirements, but the honors requirements do not add to the number of Common Curriculum courses you need to take. The only other course requirements are two 2-credit Honors Seminars in your Junior or Senior year, and you will need to satisfy the requirements for Distinction in your major.